

**In the Specification**

On page 5, line 3, please insert the following:

Figure 3 is a flowchart illustrating the top-level operations of an embodiment of the invention.

On page 13, immediately following line 10, please insert the following:

Reference is now made to FIG. 3, which is a flowchart illustrating the top-level operations of an embodiment of the invention. Specifically, FIG. 3 illustrates a method for selecting a spectral mask for use with a DSL system. The illustrated method comprises obtaining a weighted ratio of upstream rates and downstream rates 302. The method also determines whether a cost function, based in part upon the weighted ratio, is greater than a predetermined value 304. Finally, the method selects a spectral mask based in part upon the determination of whether the cost function is greater than a predetermined value 306.